

**From:** Peter butcher  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** MS antitrust case - The Global Perspective

Hello DoJ

Have you considered your global responsibilities in this case? Microsoft needs to be kept strong for the benefit of global consumers and in the interests of the global economy.

I know that the USA takes a dim view of international legal processes, but there is a strong moral argument for protecting the interests of non-US residents. Your country is part of a global community in which the tyranny of distance is shrinking. Xbox graphics chips are made in Asia. Our young people often seek work overseas. International tourism is (was) increasing. We all tend to use and often depend on Microsoft products.

My main point is: "What is the relevance of the IE/Netscape rivalries of quite a few years ago to the situation today?" If antitrust justice is this slow, then it is simply not relevant, and is a damaging distraction.

Microsoft has released over half a dozen new operating systems since then. It is now making a splash in the game console market with the XBox, and is planning a broader invasion of the living room with it's 'Home Station'. We will all be better off if they can be left to focus on technology for the present and the future, rather than fighting rearguard legal actions from the past.

Don't get me wrong. I use Netscape. Mostly 4.7. I recently downloaded 6.2, but do not like it. It may look stylish, but it is too like Internet Explorer for my liking, especially the stop button function. Of course I do not use Outlook or Outlook Express. Initially because I preferred the email client that I was familiar with, but now mostly for security reasons. Several clients of mine have had dreadful virus problems, particularly BadtransB. Problems caused by a bug in the Microsoft email clients that they use.

My point is that if Microsoft had not been so distracted by legal battles from the past, then it could have concentrated more on securing it's current products, and making us all better quality future products.

yours

Peter W. Butcher